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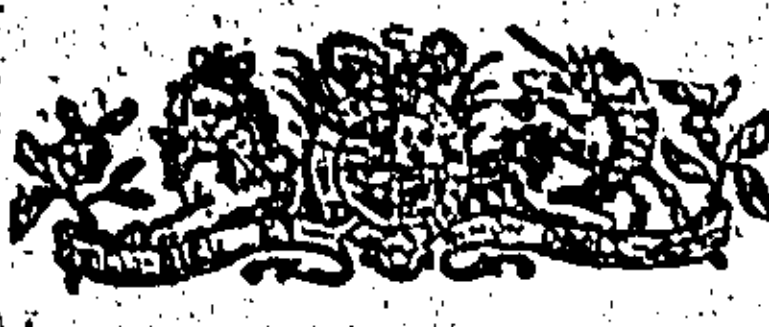
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BIG SWITCH-OFF STARTS

Thousands Of Factories Without Power

Virtual State Of Emergency

London, Feb. 10.

All electric power was switched off in thousands of factories in England by Government order today to save coal, throwing 2,000,000 or more persons out of work temporarily and confronting the Attlee Labour Government with the gravest industrial and political crisis of its 19-month life.

At nine a.m. the 100% power cut spread to householders, restaurants, shops, doctors, dentists, business houses, banks and most schools in a wide belt of England stretching from the Southeast coast through London and the Midlands to the Northwest, an area inhabited altogether by nearly 9,500,000 persons.

These non-industrial users will be deprived of electricity daily from nine a.m. to one p.m. and again from two to four p.m. Only approximately 25 so-called essential services, ranging from bakers and news-papers to waterworks in suburban areas, will be exempt from power cuts.

Prime Minister Attlee will address Britain by radio at 9 p.m. tonight in an appeal for the cooperation of all to surmount the fuel crisis.

The Prime Minister was expected to warn that it might be necessary to suspend some railway passenger services to permit coal trains to get through to sorely pressed areas.

Mr. Attlee's statement was expected to set forth the facts of Britain's power crisis and to expound Government's plan to tide it over.

In a ten-minute speech he will appeal for rigid economies in the use of electricity for light and heating not only in the areas affected by the cuts but in unaffected parts as well.

Cuts Start

Cuts in electricity—an effort to tide the nation over the current power crisis—came into effect today, and opposite the United Press office the windows of a somewhat less essential industry—a bookmaker's office—blowed brightly beside a huge wall poster proclaiming "Use electricity at the 'offpeak' period."

One of London's leading department stores conceded to the emergency stoppage of its escalators but its elevators and lifts ran as usual and there was no evidence that lights had been turned off.

In one West End area a leading chain drugstore chemist shop entered to its patrons in a murky atmosphere while next door a small jeweller did business with normal illumination.

Throughout the area of England and Wales affected by the cut—starting at the Scottish border in the northwest and stretching to Lancashire, North Wales, the Midlands, East Anglia, Greater London and Sussex and the Kent area east of Brighton—millions of workers stayed home puzzled whether their industry was essential and whether they would get paid for their enforced idleness.

Attlee Statement

Workmen's trains, buses and street-cars into London carried markedly fewer passengers than usual.

Thousands of housewives were busy an hour earlier than usual seeking to do the day's cooking before the 9 a.m. deadline.

ON OTHER PAGES

Page Two
Reply to Vegetable Market Critics.

Page Three
Colonel Noma's Story.

Page Four
Gendarme Officers on Trial.

Page Five
Night Club Fire Horror.

Page Seven
Rice Production Increase Prediction.

Page Eight
Italian Peace Treaty Signed.

SOONG RUMOURS DENIED

Nanking, Feb. 10.
Authoritative sources today denied that Dr. T. Y. Soong, has resigned as President of the Executive Yuan, which was rumoured persistently in Shanghai and Nanking this morning amid skyrocketing gold and United States dollar prices.

Divorcee Shoots Herself

Tokyo, Feb. 10.
Gaula Schneider, beautiful blonde German divorcee, shot herself to death in an American Army officer's quarters rather than face repatriation to the Reich.

She committed suicide with the service revolver of a colonel with whom German friends said she had been friendly.

The 8th Army Public Relations office declined to make any statement on the case, "which is under investigation," but acknowledge that the Colonel had been frequently escorting the woman in Tokyo.

The Colonel was in Manila and was in no way involved in the woman's death, it was said.

Kesselring On Trial

Venice, Feb. 10.
Field-Marshal Albert von Kesselring, 62-year-old former commander of the German forces in Italy and Chief of the Luftwaffe General-Staff during the Battle of Britain, faced trial before a British military court in Venice today.

Dr. Hans Laternser, who is to defend Kesselring on his two charges of war crimes, asked the president of the court for an adjournment of the trial for preparation of evidence for the defence.

The president granted an adjournment until next Monday. Kesselring is charged with having been concerned in the killing of 335 Italian civilians in the Ardeatine Caves near Rome on March 23, 1944 and with having issued orders to the troops under his command in June and July, 1944 to kill Italian civilians as reprisals for partisan activities.

any statement on the case.

Reuter.

Reuter.

Railways Out

Snowploughs were used for the first time in living memory in the business and newspaper areas of London today.

The Westminster Council has appealed for 500 men thrown out of work by snow or fuel cuts to clear drifts from its 100 miles.

Many railway yards were blocked by last night's fall, particularly in Wales, where snow is blowing off the mountains into cuttings.

One of the main lines to Scotland is blocked by snowdrifts and is expected to remain so for two days.

Denso, Feb. followed sunshine and a thaw in the Straits of

It's The Girl, Not The Gown

New York, Feb. 10.
Following reports that men shoppers purchased more black lingerie than ever before for American women a Long Island, New York, professor of psychology has declared that "ladies in black lingerie are not particularly alluring."

Admitting that a contrary belief appeals to be widely held, Dr. Douglas Spencer of Queens Village, Flushing, New York, said: "In fact, black lingerie sometimes makes women look dirty."

He explained that black makes objects seem thinner because no light rays are refracted, but that the idea that jet-colored undergarments created sex appeal had been implanted by designers.

"A beautiful and curvaceous female in a black nightgown might be considered glamorous," Dr. Douglas said. "But the same girl, beautiful and well-endowed, would be glamorous in pink or white, or blue or yellow. It's the girl, not the gown that counts."—Associated Press.

Sensational Rise In Gold Price

Shanghai, Feb. 10.
Operators on the black financial market today refused trading in the afternoon session following a sensational gold price hike from CN\$550,000 per ounce to CN\$655,000. The United States Dollar fetched CN\$12,500 and touched CN\$14,000, and the Hongkong Dollar was CN\$2,500.

Long queues have been waiting at goldsmith stores early in the morning, buying gold and many turned away when the stores decided to announce "sold out."

Financial circles claimed the latest spurt was due (1) to the Government announcement of a 100 per cent bonus to exporters which is interpreted as a devaluation of the Chinese currency to CN\$6,700 to US\$1 from the official rate of CN\$3,350.

(2) Dimmer possibility for China to get a US\$500,000,000 loan from the United States, part of which was expected to have been in the form of gold.

(3) A reported tendency of the Mexican Government to cease gold sales.

(4) The political outlook, indicating increased civil war and business, failures generally accelerating a "complete economic collapse" hoped for by Chinese Reds in Nationalist China.

Meanwhile the Chinese Government remained quiet on the enforcement of the export subsidy plan or the collection of a 50 per cent ad valorem surcharge on practically all imports—and the consequent possibility of the United States and British Governments invoking tariff laws—subjecting China's exports to a similar levy, thus nullifying all the benefits designed for Chinese exporters.—United Press.

Dover this afternoon.

After a night in which up to ten inches of snow fell, skiers were out in Central London today; milk bottles left on doorsteps were hidden beneath a smooth white carpet and dogs and cats which ventured out disappeared into the drifts.

Milk roundmen called out reinforcements to pull their carts through the streets piled high with loose snow except one who put his bottles in crates in a sledge harnessed to his private car and covered his rounds in half the normal time.

A blizzard blew on the Yorkshire coast this morning and coastguards stood on "bad weather watch" along 150 miles from the Humber to the Tyne.

Reuter.

MANCHESTER DEAD

London, Feb. 9.
The Duke of Manchester, ninth holder of the title, died today at the age of 69.

The title now goes to his son, 44-year-old Viscount Alexander, Mandeville.—Reuter.

British General Murdered

Rome, Feb. 10.
Brigadier-General R. W. M. de Winton, commander of the 13th British Infantry Brigade at Pola, was assassinated by an unidentified woman this morning.

Brig. Winton was inspecting the guard outside Brigade headquarters when the woman walked up to him, pulled a revolver from her purse and shot him dead.

The woman was arrested at once but her nationality is not yet known.

The announcement was made by the British Public Relations Office here upon telegraphic notice from British G.H.Q. in Padua.

There were no other details.—United Press and Reuter.

Newsman Dies Of Wounds

Hanoi, Feb. 9.
Michel Moutschen, the American news agency correspondent in Hanoi, died yesterday from wounds received from Viet Nameese machine-gun fire, according to French sources here.

The funeral will be held tomorrow in the presence of the French authorities at Hanoi.

Describing the circumstances of the correspondent's death, the French said he was accompanying a French armoured group on the road to Hal-Duc Phu, northwest of Hanoi, and had reached Yenphu Phuong, recently captured by the French.

Together with another journalist—a French correspondent of the newspaper l'Epopee—Moutschen was stepping forward to photograph the Yenphu Phuong dam when a burst of machine gun fire took the group by surprise.

Moutschen made a running leap for a roadside ditch but was laid out by a second burst of gunfire.

Moutschen had arrived in Tonkin with the French troops in March 1946 and had followed nearly all the military operations. He had lost practically all his belongings in a fire caused by the Viet Nam attack of Dec. 19.—Reuter.

MORE SUN SPOTS

Washington, Feb. 10.
The Carter Observatory here reports great and increasing sun-spots activity, which is expected to produce radio interruptions and magnetic storms. The spots are stated to cover a total length on the sun's surface of 140,000 miles.—Reuter.

JEWIS AND ARABS REJECT PLAN

London, Feb. 10.
Both Jews and Arabs have definitely rejected the new British proposals for Palestine. The Arab reply was sent to the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Ernest Bevin, this morning and is understood to reject the plan in the strongest terms.

The Jewish Agency Executive will meet this afternoon after several week-end conferences and in the formal session today will draw up their final reply. It was semi-officially stated at their London headquarters today that they regard the new proposals as "even worse than the Morrison plan," which they have already turned down.

Both sides are envisaging an immediate breakdown of the present negotiations. The Arabs expect to leave for home by the first available means, probably early next week, while the Jews are contemplating publishing their reply in the form of a statement committing them to resume negotiations on the proposed basis.

The Arab spokesman said the Arab delegation had not yet made plans for leaving London "because they expect to meet with the British again."

An authoritative informant confirmed that the British plan provides for the immediate admission of 100,000 European Jews to Palestine.

Arab spokesmen said here that "it will mean war" if the proposal allows one more Jew to set foot in Palestine.

The Arab delegation spokesman said the date for the expected meeting with the British had not been decided.

Counter-Proposals

Earlier, however, a Colonial Office spokesman said no further talks on Palestine were expected to take place Monday.

The spokesman's report followed a declaration in Cairo that the Arab delegates in London soon would withdraw, "rejecting all British proposals."

The Arab spokesman said here the "decision to reject the British proposal already has been taken. A letter has been drafted and it will go tomorrow."

He did not indicate what would be the subject of the final meeting of the Arab delegation with the British, but presumably it would be to reassert their counter-proposals for Palestine.

The Arabs insisted upon an Arab state in Palestine with minority rights for the Jews.—Reuter and Associated Press.

Bloody Fighting In Hanoi

Hanoi, Feb. 9.
Bloody fighting on the north-western outskirts of Hanoi, in which 200 Vietnamese troops were killed was reported by the Agency France Presse today.

French columns fanning out of Hanoi finally occupied the fort of Hanoi Duc Phay and the cross-roads of the "ferry of the four columns" on the right bank of the Red River. The fort is seven and one-half miles northwest of Hanoi.

According to the AFP, three were killed and five others wounded. Annamite losses were given as 100 dead and 12 prisoners.

In the second operation in the village of Cobi, three and one-half miles from the fortified of Siam, the AFP reported, French colonial troops reinforced by artillery and armoured vehicles finally managed to seize control of the village after bitter house-to-house fighting. The purpose of this operation was to enlarge the zone of French-dominated territory around Hanoi.

According to the AFP, Vietnamese forces lost another 100 men killed while 27 prisoners were taken by the French.

French pilots bombed the Annamites by dropping a system of trenches around the Sino-Annamite section of Hanoi, where they have been resisting French attacks for the past two weeks.—United Press.

PARIS BANK HOLD-UP

Paris, Feb. 10.
Five bandits carrying tommy guns threw down town Paris into a turmoil today.

They held up a bank and escaped with nearly \$8,500 after a gunfight in the bank. The manager was wounded in the shoulder and one gunman was believed wounded. The five gunmen escaped in an automobile.—Associated Press.

Mythical Girl Was --A Grave

New York, Feb. 10.
People with smart-looking cars were lured into the woods by promises of meeting beautiful women, and then made to dig their own graves and killed.

This was stated at a murder trial yesterday in New Haven, Connecticut.

Robert Bradley, 35, was alleged to be the "selector" for the gang.

Prosecution's story is that he would offer to take the victim to a picnic to meet the mythical girls, tell him to dig a large hole for the picnic fire, and then "batter him to death."

Bradley, a Negro, is charged with murder.

29 after British parachute troops had opened fire to halt a taxi which crashed through a road block between Lydda and Tel Aviv.

When the troops approached the car, it was alleged that Rosenbaum got out, armed with a sub-machine-gun. Kashani was alleged to be in possession of two raw-hide whips. The fifth man in the car died later of wounds.

The accused, who refused legal aid, were charged with the possession of a Thompson sub-machine gun with four magazines and 73 rounds of ammunition, two revolvers and 17 rounds, four plastic bombs and two raw-hide whips.—Reuter.

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Creating Another Frankenstein

Sydney, Feb. 9. Mr. B. J. McDonald, President of the Australian Legion for former servicemen, today attacked the Allied plan to make Japan self-supporting as outlined by Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

McDonald said: "No military czar of a friendly power must force Australia to share in any plan to revive Japan—the jackal nation of the Pacific. Australia must pause before taking the blood-stained hand of Japan as a trade neighbour."

Gen. MacArthur's plea for wool to save Japan's mills from closing will not stir compassion in the hearts of any Australians, McDonald said, adding: "Japan's commerce must be permanently purged of its gangster tradition. If she wants to trade with Australia we must first know whether we are creating another Frankenstein, and insure that she spends half a century compensating and building up—in countries she wronged."

—United Press.

PALACE HOTEL SALE

Shanghai, Feb. 10. The sale of the foreign owned Palace Hotel to a Chinese firm at CN\$3,400,000,000 was reported to have been completed, according to a local press report.

Whether the building will remain as a hotel or be converted into business offices is not yet known.

One source said that the building will be refitted to accommodate a new Bank named Wei Tze Bank. The building was erected some 50 years ago.—Central News.

S.M.C. EMPLOYEES

Shanghai, Feb. 10. A representative of some 5,700 Chinese employees of the former Shanghai Municipal Council told the press today of their demands for the refund of their superannuation retirement bonus and pensions, based on the present living index by the Shanghai Municipal Government before the end of March.

These employees deemed it perfectly legal to reclaim the funds owed by the former Municipal Council from the Municipal Government.

The funds, formerly estimated at more than CN\$10,000,000 are now worth CN\$50,000,000 according to the present living index. The demands were submitted to Mayor K. C. Wu by the representatives.—Central News.

BRITISH TROOPS LEAVING

Tokyo, Feb. 10. The first batch of United Kingdom troops of the British Commonwealth occupation forces will leave Japan on or about Feb. 18 for Singapore.

A second ship-load will leave for Singapore early in March. The departing troops total over 3,000.—Reuter.

GENDARME OFFICERS ON CRIMES CHARGE

A statement by the second accused that there was at the Eastern Gendarmerie a dog named "Aruma" which had been employed in the interrogation of prisoners was testified to by the interpreter who took the statement from Sgt. Major Oba Takao, of the staff of Eastern Kempetai Headquarters during the Japanese occupation, when the trial started yesterday before No. 5 War Crimes Court of Oba and his senior officer, Capt. Shibata Shigeo.

Shibata, who was commanding officer of the Eastern Gendarmerie, is charged with Oba with being concerned in the ill-treatment of civilian residents of Hong Kong in custody at the Happy Valley Gendarmerie, causing the death of some and physical suffering to others, in violation of the laws and usages of war.

The case is being heard by a Court comprising Lt.-Col. R. C. Laming, of the Department of the J.A.G. India, President; Major J. L. Loranger, of the J.A.G. Branch, Canada, M.C., of the 2nd Bn. The Buffs, Major R. C. Lai, is the prosecuting officer, whilst the accused are being defended by Mr. Yamada Toshio, assisted by Capt. Koshio as Adviser.

In his opening address, Major Lai said that Capt. Shibata was Commanding Officer of the Eastern Kempetai Headquarters, Happy Valley, from August 13, 1943, to Feb. 19, 1945. Sgt. Major Oba was posted to Eastern Kempetai Headquarters in October, 1943, where he served on the Interrogation Staff. He remained there until March, 1945.

Evidence would be adduced that Shibata's office overlooked the interrogation room while his living quarters overlooked the detention cells some 60 yards away. Civilian residents were incarcerated in these detention cells.

Evidence would be adduced that victims, including the use of Alsatian dogs, took place openly, not only in the cells, but in the interrogation room, the guard room and elsewhere in the building, and that whilst these tortures were going on officers and men went in and out of the premises.

A voluntary statement had been made by Capt. Shibata after due caution in which he said that he had allowed cases to be referred for interrogation. It would be argued that from his position, his control over, and contact with, his subordinates, he could not have been unaware of the brutalities and cruelties perpetrated on the prisoners and was a consenting party to these.

Admits Torture

The first witness called was Lieutenant-Interpreter Beeson Yeh, War Crimes Investigation, S.E.A.C., who gave evidence of an identification parade at Stanley Gaol at which one Leung Kong had picked out, without hesitation, the accused Oba as the man who had arrested and interrogated him. On being picked out, Oba admitted having beaten Leung and given him the aeroplane torture but denied giving him the water torture.

Witness also testified to a statement taken from Oba by a War Crimes Investigation Officer in which Oba is said to have admitted that there were cases when a dog named "Aruma", belonging to a Gendarme sergeant, had been set upon prisoners during interrogation, but that he had never himself employed the dog. Oba admitted in his statement to having once hit a prisoner with a bamboo fencing stick.

The next witness, Sgt. Roy Ito, of the Canadian Army, testified to having interpreted a statement taken from Capt. Shibata after due caution in which he accused Shibata of being responsible for the actions of his subordinates, but that they would be individually responsible for any torture of prisoners.

Shibata claimed in this statement that he had never heard any shouts and screams of prisoners.

FOUR DRINKS

Los Angeles, Feb. 10. Pan-American World Airways announced that alcoholic drinks will be served aboard Clippers between here and the Orient and is later being extended to Australia and Asia. There will be four drinks per customer in each flight.—Associated Press.

SIREN PROTEST

Shanghai, Feb. 10. All Chinese ships full-blasted their whistles for three minutes at 11 a.m. today, protesting against the continued detention of the masters of a tug and a passenger ship which collided and sank at the mouth of the Whangpoo River recently, drowning many people.—United Press.

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NOW OUT WITH IT, SOPHIE! WHERE'S SILAS? THE LIDS OFF YOUR LITTLE GAME AT LAST!



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By EDGAR MARTIN

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DEATH

BAPTISTA, Robertina Engracia, nee her residence, 28 Conduit Road, Hongkong, at 10.30 p.m. on Monday, 10th February 1947. Funeral will take place tomorrow (Tuesday) at 5.30 p.m. (Macao paper's please copy).

BANKERS' VERDICT

British bankers are notoriously as cautious in their public utterances as in the administration of the resources entrusted to their care. Moreover, they are keen observers of the economic scene, but not hasty critics of policy. For these reasons their annual statements are widely regarded as affording a balanced picture of the economic position of the nation. Having reserved judgment on many developments which probably caused them uneasiness, they appear now to have decided that the time has come for plain speaking. On all the major problems of the day—the export situation, the shortage of dollars, labour costs and efficiency, the cheap money drive—they have used forthright terms.

Mr. Rupert Beckett, the Westminster Bank chairman, who has never deviated from a position of sturdy individualism, has posed the economic problem as one calling for immediate action. He sees, on the one hand, the frustration and confusion resulting from the rapid implementation of the Government's nationalisation policy. The result, he declares, is a tendency to play for safety and security under the Government's umbrella. On the other hand, he points to the drain on Britain's dollar resources, the brakes on enterprise and reduced efficiency. Why, he asks, pursue what at best—accepting the Socialist claims—can only be long-term gains while the wolf is already at the door?

Shortage of dollars and some of the means of combating it provide the principal theme of the statement of Lord Balfour of Burleigh, chairman of Lloyds Bank. He believes that Britain's export possibilities in the American market have not yet been fully explored. Here the future obviously depends on the level of British costs, the effectiveness of our salesmanship and America's willingness to adjust high import tariffs. Invisibles exports which should supplement our visible credit items are being held down by official policy which has largely cut away the functions of London's international commodity markets. One must therefore draw such consolation as one can from the revival in face of these handicaps of the use of confirmed credits and acceptances drawn on the London money market. This welcome development, of which all the banks' balance-sheets contain ample evidence, is given a prominent place in the statement of Lord Linlithgow, the Midland Bank chairman. It is a tribute to the reputation built up by the City in times past that he is able to speak of the "unimpaired degree of confidence on the part of traders abroad in sterling and in the technical services available in London as a financial centre."

On the domestic financial front the bank chairmen have naturally probed the full meaning and effect of cheap money. In this much-vaunted instrument of official policy they have found many defects. Mr. Edwin Fisher, chairman of Barclays Bank, whose sudden death came as a profound shock to the City of London, ventured the opinion that the tower limit of interest rates has now been reached beyond which reduction would do more harm than good. The same point of view is expressed even more forcefully by Capt. Eric Smith, chairman of the National Provincial Bank. Rejecting the official claim that cheap money is a measure of the Government's credit status, he puts forward the counter-assertion that the real gauge of credit is the rate at which money can be borrowed in a free market in the face of competition. As everybody knows, the market in Government loans today can scarcely be described as a free one, and to this extent interest rates are now artificially low. From the social as well as the financial aspects, the safe limits of cheap money have been reached, and the bankers have sounded the appropriate warning.

Communism via Capitalism

China's Communists, sometimes described as not really Communists but as "agrarian reformers," proudly assured me that all members of the party are orthodox Marxists and that the party organisation follows the Russian model. A plaster plaque of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin, in profile, hangs in most Government offices in the Communist cave-city capital Xian, and in the University of Xian, a well-thumbed collection of classic Soviet literature, including annual reports of the Comintern translated into Chinese.

Soviet Affinity

But it does not follow, as is frequently alleged, that China's Communists take their orders from Moscow. A close spiritual and ideological affinity between them, however, is only to be expected. The economic policy of China's Communists is at any rate their own. Communist leader Mao Tse-tung frankly proclaims in his "New Democracy," which has become the party's bible, that "although our programme is to push China forward to Socialism"

By GERALD SAMSON

Communism this cannot be achieved on the debris of a semi-colonial and semi-feudal China.

"Emphasis is must be placed on the development of a vast private capitalist and co-operative economy and the development of the individual initiative of hundreds of millions of people." In other words, as he made clear during a three hour interview, "an era of industrialisation and capitalism is the first stage towards a Communist China," and these are the lines along which the Regional Administrations are working.

Land Ownership

Great stress is still laid on agricultural reform and there is everything to be said for the tiller owning his own land, but the ruthless manner in which this has been largely achieved can commend itself to few. I was much impressed, however, with the way the Communists in the north-east (Manchuria) have redistributed property and land owned by Japanese and collaborators. In contrast to the Government policy of selling everything to the highest bidder, the Communists have divided it up among some of those who have lived their lives in quarters we would consider unfit for cattle. "At last we have roots!" I was told by some of the lucky ones to whom life at last had a meaning.

The political indoctrination of the primary school children is a most unique aspect of the Communist system. I listened to boys and girls of five up to twelve reciting political slogans, which were also made the themes of songs and dances. My adverse comments drew rebuffs which brought home the bitterness of feeling that has been engendered by two decades of civil war.

A Mistake

Mao Tse-tung met my political inquiries in similar vein. President Chiang Kai-shek was denounced in the most bitter phrases, though I noticed during our dinner at Military H.Q. that his picture was hanging up on the wall in line with those of Stalin, Dr. Sun Yat Sen, founder of the Chinese Republic, President Truman and Premier Attlee.

Mao explained the Communist Party's boycott of the National Assembly in these words: "Under conditions of no freedom of speech, under conditions of war, it would be a mistake to make part in it. Had we done so neither the Chinese people or the rest of the world would have known what is white or black, nor who is right or wrong." The Communists are convinced time is on their side. They believe that the National Army will eventually be broken and that their destruction of communications, coal mines and factories will hasten an economic collapse, which will bring down the Government with it. Meanwhile they display a complete disregard for the enormous suffering such a policy inflicts on the people.

Although Russia was excited wherever I went, there was a disinclination to discuss Sino-Russian relations. Few had heard of the secret clauses of the 1945 Yalta agreement and when I mentioned them writers and students looked at me incredulously.

Mao passed over the Red Army's removal of industrial equipment from the North-East with the enigmatic observation that "the Russian Army have not taken it in order to kill the Chinese people, but if General Chiang had it, he would use it for this purpose."

Fascist Revival?

The Russian occupation of Dairen and Port Arthur, lightly condoned by Mao, was characterised by General Li Li-shan (who recently returned to China after 17 years' exile in Russia) as "a good thing for it will protect China against the resurgence of Japanese fascism which I predict within five years."

The Communist leaders—the rank and file merely parrot them—are vehemently anti-American as they are pro-Russian. American intervention is denounced from the all-highest

Political Bureau down to the kindergarten. "The enemies of the Chinese people," said Mao, "are the American imperialists and their running-dog Chiang Kai-shek." Then later "American imperialism is the enemy of Britain as well as China," a remark typical of the studied attempt to drive a wedge between the British and American Governments. Warm friendship for Britain was everywhere emphasised.

As a group the Communist leaders are high-minded, hard-working, well-intentioned visionaries who show clear signs of being factually as well as materially starved. They believe in various degrees, that the end justifies the means. Like most Communists they never hesitate to distort events to bolster their own case and stubbornly dispel any evidence or argument which may conflict with declared policy.

Idealism

The zealous enthusiasm of their active followers, so many of whom are not party members is due to their belief that support of the Communists is the one way they can effectively help to put an end to corruption and inept local governments. The peasants for the most part appeared to be passive onlookers. Of one thing I am positive China's Communists cannot be lightly dismissed, for they are prepared to die for principles which they hold more sacred than life itself.

FINAL ARTICLE:
Solving China's Problems.

Anti-Soviet Speeches In Canada

London, Feb. 9. Radio Moscow today broadcast a Pravda article on "a series of anti-Soviet speeches made last week in Canada."

In Winnipeg, Randolph Churchill urged the nation not to be afraid of the Soviet Union. In Toronto and Ottawa, British M.P. Beverley Baxter on the contrary tried to intimidate the Soviet Union. American journalist White in Montreal called upon Canadians to fight the Soviet Union. Lastly, the Premier of Ontario, Mr. Drew, came out against the USSR.

"All of them, though in different ways, tried to fan belated sentiments among the population," said the article, "to sow alarm and uncertainty and war scare and, above all, were telling lies about the Soviet Union. Those slanders are fulfilling orders of well-known reactionary circles disturbed by the fact that relative peace has set in the world," the article said.—United Press.

London, Feb. 9. The Turkish President, Dr. Ismet Inonu, today received the Egyptian envoy, who brought special messages from King Farouk of Egypt. Ankara Radio reported tonight.—Reuter.

BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By Shepard Barclay

"The Authority on Authorities"

PROOF OF LOCATION

An opponent, known for weak hands with a great long suit whenever he makes an original bid of three or more in a suit, is very unlikely to hold a high card in any side suit. When you are playing against one of his pre-emptively bid contracts, you can nearly always count your partner for any missing ace in another suit, and usually for that obvious factor into account can result in your giving the dealer his contract on a silver platter.

S 7 6 4
H A 9
D A K Q 9
C 10 8 6 4

S A 10 5 N S K J 9 2
H 5 4 3 W E 7 3
D J 8 7 6 2 S D 6 4 3
C 9 7 5 3 S C A K Q 2

S Q 8 3
H K Q J 10 8 6 4 2
D 10
C J

(Dealer: South. North-South vulnerable.)
South West North East
3 H Pass 4 H

Against that bidding, West led his club 3, the Q winning. With a moment's hesitation, East then returned the club K. South ruffed this seven hearts and then three diamonds to score a total of 11 tricks, giving him an extra above his contract. What in the world was the matter with East? Did he possibly think South had the spade A?

CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



"So you fell asleep! You and Mrs. Roosevelt!"

Yalta Is Still A Top Secret

By K. C. THALER

Two years after the signing of the secret Yalta Agreement by the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mr. Winston Churchill and Marshal Josef Stalin, official channels continue today to maintain a veil of secrecy and mystery over the history and background of this document.

Its publication in February last year has not induced Mr. Churchill nor those "in the know" to relax a policy of sealed lips and discreet what.

prompted America and Britain to subscribe to the document on the eve of victory over Germany. A slim file in the reference division of the Foreign Office in London—prominently marked "Yalta"—reveals nothing but the text of the agreement concerning the entry of Soviet Russia into the war against Japan with the imprimatur "top secret" still on its cover. A few clippings from British newspapers referring to it are the only additional fare offered to an inquiring mind.

Foreign Office officials politely refuse to give information on why the British Government agreed to the clause in the Yalta Pact setting out the price to Russia for participation in the Japanese war. They remain reluctant to give any hint which might be interpreted as official British comment on what it would appear they prefer to treat rather as a "forgotten document."

British foreign policy experts familiar with Churchill's motives and aims are inclined to give three main considerations on the British side as promoting motives for signing the then secret Yalta agreement: (1) Britain's anxiety to complete the European war at all costs and to maintain

had in mind that a definite settlement in the Pacific would have to be made anyway at a peace conference with Japan when final adjustments could be made in the light of postwar developments. Malaya alone had exports greater worth more than those of all the rest of the British colonial empire put together. That small country produced more rubber and tin far more than any other country. North Borneo and Sarawak represented the main British oilfield and refineries in the Far East.

A British publication, generally accepted as close to the War Office, in an article in February, 1945, bluntly declared that the British rubber, oil and tin were essential raw materials for industry and transport and that the prospects of full employment at home depended on recovering those sources of supply from the Japanese.

Foreign policy experts maintain that Britain did not lightly sign the Yalta Agreement, and in defence of this they also invoke some historical facts to heat out that some of the advantages conceded to Russia had been held by her before. They argue that this applies above all to Southern Sakhalin.

On the question of Manchuria, however, very strong feeling has been reflected since publication of the pact.

The influential weekly "The Economist," commented: "This was indeed great power diplomacy at its worst."

The "Economist" charged that Russia was generally to seek facilities in China—she wanted special rights and knew China would not willingly grant again such rights to any foreign power—hence the procedure of secretly gaining the consent of America and Britain as part of a bargain for the entry of Russia into the war against Japan thus imposing the terms on China as a Big Three decision. To bring about

A CITY OF CONTRASTS

Moscow, Feb. 9. The Moscow "Automat" is probably the only restaurant in the world where a coin-operated machine vends caviar. As the guide books say, it is a city of contrasts.

When the Big Four Foreign Ministers convene here in March they will find a town where clean, modern department stores and medieval bazaars. One of the world's fanciest and quietest subways carries passengers to a sleigh depot, horse-drawn sleds skim along snow-filled lanes from the end of the subway line.

Grimsy Soviet soldiers can listen any night while an American style jazz band plays "Melancholy Baby" in the luxurious restaurant "Metropole."

Moscow, a five-storey department store is only a few blocks from a bazaar where peasants in felt boots sell raw beef and vegetables. Both establishments are patronised by automobile factory workers.

Contrasts in Moscow are not limited to the old and the new. Russians have the deepest respect for authority, but the city's traffic police are among the most polite in the world.

There is a brief, frightening moment after a traffic violation when an American might think Moscow police were as stern as their American counterparts. But it is short lived.

Instead of the "where do you think you are going?" approach the Moscow officer touches the brim of his red and blue cap—and reminds the offending driver of the law. He then urges future caution in polite words.

Circus tickets, like ice cream, are on sale in Moscow the year round. Russian circuses are complete in aerialists, animals, tumblers and clowns. But the sawdust menagerie and the frolicsome midway atmosphere are missing.

The city also has a variety theatre featuring comedy acts, and a tiny puppet theatre operated by an expert marionette manipulator. Moscowites love puppet shows. Their extraordinary interest in marionettes has developed since the war.

In America balloons are associated with circuses, summer outings and amusements. But in Moscow any one of the Big Four Foreign Ministers will be able to buy them from street vendors who wear heavy overcoats and shawls in the wintertime.—United Press.

New Drug Against Malaria

A new drug, developed during the war to protect American soldiers against malaria, is now being made available for domestic use.

It originally was known as 7618 and later as chloroquine. It is 10 times as strong as quinine, and much less poisonous. It is a better drug than atabrine which was used widely during most of the war.

Chloroquine, a synthetic compound made from coal tar, is related chemically to both quinine and atabrine, and clinical tests still are being made to determine whether it can be made still more effective.

Government statistics show that more than 500,000 Army and Navy personnel were treated for malaria during the war, but some medical men believe the number affected may have been close to 1,000,000.

Thousands of men returning from the war—particularly those from the southwest Pacific—have had recurrent attacks of malaria. And in some cases some have been reported as indirect carriers of the disease. With chloroquine, however, medical scientists believe that no widespread outbreak of malaria will occur in this country.

The new drug, which was not used on a large scale until late in the war, prevents and cures one type of malaria, called plasmodium falciparum; but is not so effective against another type, called plasmodium vivax. The latter is the recurring type.

It has several advantages over atabrine in that it does not cause the patient's skin to stain; does not cause gastrointestinal symptoms; and may be given in a single dose. Atabrine must be given daily for a week.

Dr. Theodore G. Klumpp, former chief of the food and drug administration of the Department of Agriculture, said that the Winthrop Chemical Co. is now making chloroquine for domestic use, under the name of Aralen.

an alliance, which turned out to be a superfluous, redundant Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill paid a bribe which was not likely to give.

But the full story of Yalta, until the archives are made available, will not be known and the background that led to these signatures completely disclosed.—United Press.

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BOOTH & BROTHERS, JOSEPH Rothley, Leeds.	Standard steam travelling jib cranes, railway breakdown & main line type cranes, railway and warehouse fixed cranes.
BRAYSHAW FURNACE & TOOLS LTD. Belle Vue, Manchester.	Furnaces for the heat treatment of steel, small tools, etc.
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CLARKE CHAPMAN & CO., LTD. Gateshead, Newcastle.	Steam & electric marine winches, pulverized fuel equipment, High Pressure Steam Boilers.
CLYDE CHANES & ENGINEERING CO. LTD. Mossend Lanarkshire, Scotland.	All kinds of Lift and Handling appliances for steel work, shipyards, harbours, docks & general purposes.
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NIGHT CLUB FIRE HORROR Over 100 Bodies Believed Buried In Ruins PANIC ADDED TO DEATH-TOLL

Berlin, Feb. 9. Rescue workers believe that more than 100 bodies are buried in the smoking ruins of a big German dance hall in the British Zone, as a result of a fire Saturday night. At least four British soldiers are known to have lost their lives. More than 15 hours after the fire had been brought under control, rescue workers and British troops were removing bodies of victims. Many were charred beyond recognition. Most of them were jammed in the main front entrance to the building, where panic-stricken guests had fought to escape the racing flames, and added to the death toll.

Some rescue workers thought the death toll would reach 150. At least 30 other persons, most of them Germans, were sent to hospital with severe burns. Ernst Wahne, a German survivor who was familiar with the layout of the building, said he saved himself by escaping through a basement window. He said the light went out immediately after the first flame appeared on the ceiling, throwing the packed dancers into screaming confusion.

Women's Screams
"Everyone was having a good time," he said, "when suddenly there was a flash of flame along the ceiling. Within five minutes flames were shooting all over the room. Women were screaming and hundreds of guests were scrambling to reach the exit."

Scores of these never got through the door. Flames enveloped the structure and then spread to destroy an adjoining two-storey dwelling. Just outside the exit rescue workers Sunday set up a long table where they placed bits of charred clothing and shoes to be inspected by relatives of victims.

The dance hall, located in the Spandau district and known as the "Karlshof" was frequented by British troops as well as German civilians. Associated Press.

Mad Stampede
Berlin, Feb. 9. More than 50 people, including three British soldiers, were killed as the result of a fire which swept through a Spandau dance hall last night as 600 revellers—many masked and in fancy dress—were watching an exhibition by trick cyclists.

Scores more were injured in the blaze which, according to an eyewitness, only took 15 minutes to destroy the whole building.

The fire started when the pipes of three large iron stoves became over-heated and set fire to the wooden ceiling. As the first sparks came down among the audience seated at small tables, there was a rush towards the cloakroom doors and exits.

A few seconds later a mass of flames burst through one end of the hall, fanned by a bitter wind which blew right along the building. The rush became a stampede with women and girls screaming, and tables and chairs were overturned in a wild struggle to squeeze through the doorways.

Some of those first out tried to return for overcoats and handbags and the vestibule became a tightly-wedged mass of hysterical and panic-stricken people.

Amazing Stories
Many collapsed from shock and suffocated to death before flames engulfed the whole hall. Some tried vainly to escape through the windows only to find iron bars on the outside. Some fortunate ones found a few unbarred windows or got cut through the back door behind the kitchen.

Survivors today told amazing stories of Germans who reached safety and then tried to fight their way back for forgotten possessions—of a handman labouring at a window to push a big drum through and another musician who blocked the doorway with a brass cello, which he was trying to take out with him.

A 19-year-old British soldier attending the ball brought his girl partner safely from the blazing hall and then returned in a vain effort to rescue her companion. He is now missing.

British troops with army fire-fighting appliances and ambulances helped the German fire services to rescue many injured people from the debris.

Crushed To Death
Firemen and police were searching for the remains to

night in the still-smoking debris. The British News Service in Germany tonight estimated the total death toll at 70 persons.

The New Service added that most people perished in the cloak-rooms when seeking their belongings. Eyewitnesses were reported to have seen several women literally crushed to death. Many people who did not bother about their coats got out and were seen walking home in fancy dress through frozen streets.

According to the British News Service there were about 60 Britons present in a total of 700. The burnt-out building was the favourite amusement centre for young British soldiers in the Spandau area. Ruter.

Driver's Story

Berlin, Feb. 9. A British driver, Harry Roberts, who was in the club, described the scene as "mad panic" when flames burst through the ceiling.

"I was dancing when I saw them," he said. "The flames spread across the roof as though someone had thrown benzine on it."

He said everyone raced for the exits. A table blocking a doorway caused a terrific jam. He said he jumped on the table and literally dived out of the door over the heads of the mob.

Reginald Dunne, British ambulance driver, said that when he arrived at the club, it was in flames.

"I saw British soldiers standing inside the building, throwing Germans through windows who were either too dazed or injured to flee themselves," he stated.

The German police president, Paul Markgraf, said after an inspection of the burned, ice-covered ruins, that he was "horror-stricken."

He said he saw "horrified" bodies of people who they had died while attempting to escape.

There was a continuous stream of weeping relatives and friends at Spandau Hospital seeking missing kinfolk.

Gruesome Sight

British Army medical officers said they found the burned bodies of six British soldiers in the ruins.

United Press staff correspondent Robert Haeger said he saw German workers fill six caskets with bodies or parts of bodies and take them away on a truck. He said they were in the process of filling 12 more coffins.

"The bodies were burned so badly the men just filled the coffins with whatever parts they could find," Haeger said. "I counted enough parts of bodies to fill more than all the 18 black wooden boxes."

An official British Army spokesman said after an inspection of the burned club: "I saw bodies lying all over the place. It was a gruesome sight. They didn't resemble human beings. They were twisted, distorted, shapeless hulks."

The British military hospital spokesman estimated the total of dead would be "60 or more."

Dr. Leblin said 90 persons had been treated at Spandau Hospital for burns while others were taken to doctors' offices and other Berlin hospitals. Officials said the cause of the fire was the overheated furnace. The fire began at about 11 p.m.—United Press.

A KISS IS LIKE A LAWSUIT

Newcastle, Feb. 10. "Whether a particular young woman will allow a particular young man to kiss her is like a lawsuit—it cannot be determined until it has been tried," remarked Mr. Justice Stable during a case at Newcastle Assizes today.

And he added: "If young men never tried to kiss young women, I don't know where we should be now."

blamed overheated stoves. A German civilian familiar with the building said a short circuit was to blame because the flames first appeared in the ceiling and lights were extinguished immediately.

At least three British soldiers were among the dead, the British army said. They were among the 30 severely burned who were hospitalised. It said about 50 British soldiers were among the 1,000 persons at the ball, which was given by the Spandau Football Club. Those who escaped in ball costumes ran into one of the bitterest cold waves of the winter, icy winds fanning through broken windows spread the flames faster. This was Berlin's worst disaster since the war.—Associated Press.

19 Who Think They Got Away With Murder

London, Feb. 10. At liberty in this country today are nineteen people who think they have got away with murder.

But most of them are known to Scotland Yard, and only a scrap of evidence stands between their freedom and arrest.

Yard men never forget they believe that the perfect murder of today may be solved tomorrow, and they remind them of all the facts, there is the Yard's book of unsolved crimes. It is kept in a library, the membership of which is restricted to Chief Inspectors and a few detectives.

Each dossier, containing all the known facts about each of the nineteen murderers still at liberty, is borrowed many times a week for examination.

A new thought, or a new clue, may cause the whole jigsaw of the crime to fall into place.

"Truly Democratic Elections"

(By David Brown)

Moscow, Feb. 9. The Soviet Union's election machinery went into action at six o'clock this morning with voters going to the polls in seven republics, mostly through snow and ice.

The polls close at midnight. The remaining elections will be held next Friday and Sunday. With loud speakers blaring and festivities arranged for later in the day voters made the most of this national exercise of the franchise of which the keynote was sounded by Generalissimo Stalin himself, who, according to Pravda before the first supreme Soviet elections, told voters: "The forthcoming elections are not really elections, comrades. This is really a national holiday for all workers for our peasants and for the intelligentsia. Never before have there been such truly free, such truly democratic elections in the world! Never!"

"History knows no other such example."

At the seventh precinct-voting headquarters for the Stalin district—today, voting was proceeding efficiently in 30 districts.

When I visited it this morning 60 per cent of the precinct's 2,000 voters had already cast their printed ballot papers. People were pouring in through a heavy mist blanketing the city, picking their way hurriedly and gingerly along the snow-glazed pavements.

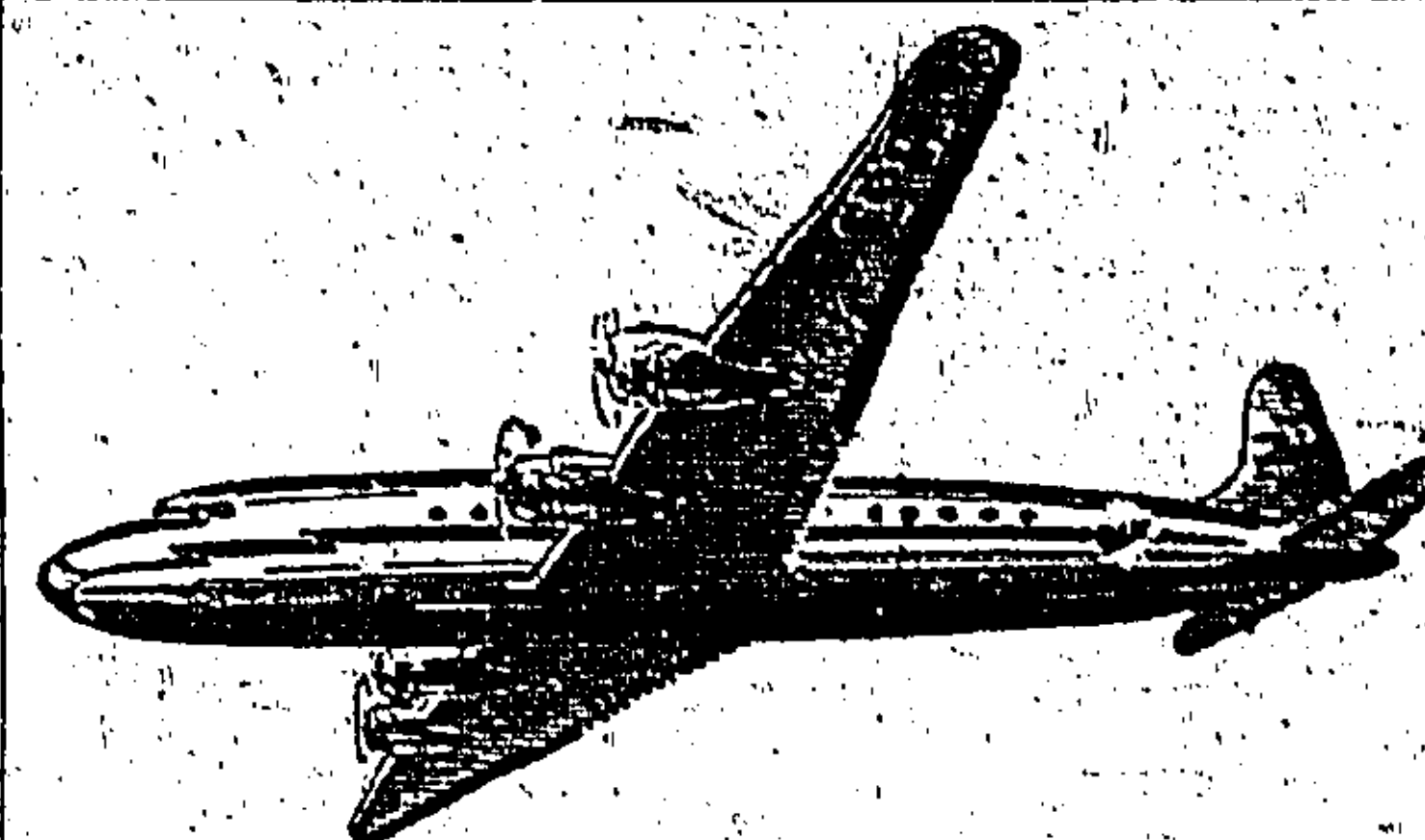
Everywhere else in the Soviet Union a major effort was devoted to bringing in every possible vote. The officials will have a tough time beating last year's 99.7 per cent of all possible votes, but the effort was unflagging.—Reuter.

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Baker's Weekly	11 21.00	New Masses	12 21.00
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1 yr. 38.00 3 yr. 110.00 4 yr. 150.00		Playboy	12 21.00
Country Club	11 21.00	Popular Mechanics	12 21.00
2 yr. 48.00		Popular Science	12 21.00
Current History	11 21.00	Popular Photography	12 21.00
Das World	11 21.00	Purchasing (Imports & Exports)	12 21.00
Dry Goods & Style Wear Review	11 21.00	Radio	12 21.00
Electrical Engineering	11 21.00	Radio & Television Weekly	12 21.00
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1 yr. 38.00 3 yr. 110.00 4 yr. 150.00		Rubber Age	12 21.00
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Foreign Affairs	11 21.00	Scientific American	12 21.00
Financial World	11 21.00	Secret Romances	12 21.00
Flying	11 21.00	Short Stories	12 21.00
Forbes Magazine (for Business Men)	11 21.00	Singing	12 21.00
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Glamour (Fashion Magazine)	11 21.00	Textile World	12 21.00
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2 yr. 48.00		True Detective Stories	12 21.00
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TREATY WITH ITALY Widespread Riots Follow Signing

Paris, Feb. 10.
Italy today signed the peace treaty formally ending the state of war between her and the 20 Allied nations. Yugoslavia sprang a last-minute surprise by signing the treaty. It was earlier generally supposed she would not sign. The treaty, which strips Italy of most of her armed forces and colonies and imposes on her territorial losses and a \$350,000,000 reparations burden, was signed for Italy by Ambassador Meli Lupi di Soragna.

The signing occurred six years and five months after Benito Mussolini declared war on Great Britain and France and three years and five months after Italy's capitulation.

Despite Italian anger and dismay at the heavy treaty terms, the signing was not able to register a protest to the victors due to a last-minute Big Four decision not to permit any of the conquered countries' representatives to make statements at the ceremony.

The signing lasted only 35 minutes. Shortly at 11 a.m. the delegates of all the 20 Allied nations entered the richly ornate Salon de l'Honneur of the Quai d'Orsay and took their seats at the 300 long table covered with green cloth.

Uneasy Silence
M. Georges Bidault, French Foreign Minister, entered immediately afterwards and took his seat with two microphones before him. Directly opposite Bidault two seats remained empty for the two Italian delegates.

The entire room was blindingly illuminated by the floodlights of wireless cameras. At one minute after 11 Bidault made his address of welcome which was immediately translated into English and Russian. At the conclusion of his address Bidault said: "Please invite the Italian delegates to enter."

A pause of several minutes followed during which the delegates sat in uneasy silence. At 11:08 the chief Italian delegate, Marchese Antonio Meli Lupi entered the room from an antechamber on the right and took his seat immediately opposite Bidault. He was accompanied by Antonio Telezio, chief of the treaty section of the Italian Foreign Office.

By a quirk of the seating arrangements the Italians were placed next to the Yugoslavs. Both the Yugoslavs and Italians ignored each other and did not look at each other. Bidault, who was sitting between the Yugoslavs and the Italians, nervously wiped his lips or passing his hand over his face.

Tense Atmosphere
First to sign the treaty were the Russians, headed by Ambassador Alexander Bogomolov at 11:17. Following the conclusion of the opening ceremony Bidault invited the delegates to accompany him to the neighbouring "Gallery of Peace" where the master copy of the treaty, covered in thick red seals and red ribbon, lay in the middle of the table which had been the work desk of Louis XV. On the table were seven pens each with a magnificent onyx holder.

Next after the Russians came the British, represented by Ambassador Alfred Duff Cooper, the United States, represented by Ambassador Jefferson Caffery, and France for which Bidault

himself signed. The other delegations followed quickly afterwards.

There was an atmosphere of tension as Yugoslavia's turn approached and an audible gasp arose from the other delegates when white-haired Foreign Minister Stanjko Smich, accompanied by Benlian Prime Minister Tscholowitch, rose without making any statement and went in to sign like the other delegates.

Two Protests
Last to sign were the Italians at 11:31 a.m. Immediately they had concluded Bidault announced the session ended. The entire ceremony took 34 minutes.

The Polish delegation, headed by Foreign Minister Gydymund Monioski, failed to reach Paris in time for this morning's ceremony because the Orient Express on which they were travelling was delayed.

Bidault announced they would sign this afternoon. Simultaneously with the signing Yugoslav Foreign Minister Stanjko Smich issued a statement protesting the treaty terms and particularly Yugoslavia's failure to obtain Venezia Giulia, Gorizia, Monfalcone and Trieste and part of Northeast Istria.

Another protest was delivered by the chief of the Greek delegation who handed a note to the Quai d'Orsay this morning detailing Greece's objections to the Italian and other treaties under which Greece had failed to obtain her full rights.—United Press.

Riots In Italy
Rome, Feb. 10.
Bloody fighting with stones and large clubs broke out today between about 100 students and Leftists in Piazza Venezia where an estimated 25,000 persons had gathered to protest the signing of the Italian peace treaty.

United Press correspondents on the scene counted at least a dozen persons bleeding from wounds while fighting was still going on. Cries of "Fascists by the Left" against the students who were shouting nationalist slogans set off the rioting.

The Leftists had come armed with large clubs and the students, to defend themselves, tore sticks from the flower wreaths for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and also utilized the standards of the city flags of Trieste, Pola and Zara which had been used for the demonstration.

Two hundred police reinforcements arrived in trucks as a shopping mass of nationalistically inflamed Italians, following the fighting group of students and Leftists, moved from in front of the national shrine to the Allied Rome Axis Command building on the south side of Piazza Venezia.

The police halted the rioting but the Leftists made an exhibition of ripping to shreds the wreaths in front of the Allied building as a sign of protest against the terms of the treaty.

Lost Cities
A huge crowd gathered at Levente for ten minutes' silence to protest the treaty signing. Similar protests were held throughout Italy.

Other crowds gathered in other important houses of the capital for "national mourning" but by far the largest demonstration occurred in Piazza Venezia where Mussolini declared war on the Allies almost seven years ago.

The main theme of the crowd's anger was centered around the lost cities of Trieste, Pola and Zara—all taken from Italy under the terms of the peace treaty.

Italian youths marching the streets to protest the signing of the Italian peace treaty, today broke into the building housing the Yugoslav military mission and raised the Italian flag from one of the balconies.

The students, shouting slogans, battered down the gate of the building and broke down several doors to get out on to the balcony to raise the Italian flag. The Yugoslav flag, flying from another part of the building which is located near the American Embassy, was not touched.

As the shouting and booing crowd outside the Yugoslav Mission building reached several hundred persons someone fired harmless revolver shots from the windows over the heads of the people. Police arrived in tepee and dispersed most of the crowd which began shouting "To the Russian Embassy."—United Press.

Death Is No Curse

San Francisco, Feb. 10.
Frank Lloyd Wright—an architect who believes "a place where you go to see the last of your earthly companions should be a happy place"—has designed a \$500,000 mortuary that looks more like a world's fair pavilion than a sombre, quiet funeral parlour. It has blue, white, rose and yellow-coloured, mushroom-shaped chapels and on the roof there is a helicopter landing site.

Wright's idea is that a mortuary should leave you with a feeling that death is no curse, that it is not lost because of it. Architecture can render a service better than anything else, if death is to be "looked upon as a friend."

At the mortuary, he says, "people will weep, certainly, but give them a lift with beauty. Put living things around—flowers that grow, not bouquets that smell."

The architect's work was undertaken at the request of a commission which wanted to build a mortuary on a rocky knoll here. Before he began his plans, he visited other mortuaries to study the styles. His plans and other features they include rest rooms for the mourners, a kiosk with growing flowers and a tunnel cut into the rock of the subsurface.

"It is about time," he said, "something was done to take the curse off this death racket."—Associated Press.

Customs Dismissal Of Foreigners

Shanghai, Feb. 10.
The Chinese Government's policy of progressively eliminating foreign elements in the Chinese Maritime Customs to make it eventually an all-Chinese organisation has advanced another step with the compulsory retirement of some 50 foreign officials of seven nationalities. This leaves only a handful of foreigners, headed by Mr. L. K. Little, the first American to hold the post of Inspector-General, left in an official Chinese organisation which has always had the greatest number of foreigners on its payroll.

The Chinese Government is estimated to have issued loans totalling around \$100,000,000 against Customs revenue ever since the service was established—largely with British aid—about 100 years ago.

Mr. Little's appointment during the war to succeed Sir Frederick Maze broke the precedent of always allocating the Inspector-Generalship to a Briton.

All the 50 foreigners just retired have been told that as soon as funds are available from the Government each will be paid the pension due him from the time he first entered the service to December 31, 1946—the date set for his retirement.

The action of the Government came as no surprise, as all foreign members of the Customs had held, and still hold, the opinion that sooner or later their service would be terminated, as they were reinstated on the understanding, after V-J Day, that while they were given the substantive rank that they held prior to December 8, 1941, their status would be on a temporary basis.

According to the regulations governing employment in the Customs, those who joined before 1920 did so with a provision that their pension would be accumulated entirely by the Customs and paid out in Sterling. Those who joined after 1920 did so with a provision that the Customs accumulate half of their pension and the other half came from their own pay.

In the past few years the Chinese national dollar has become so inflated that their own savings no longer represented any value.

On January 1, 1947, the Customs were instructed henceforth to pay the entire pension out of their own funds and in Sterling. But since the foreigners compulsorily retired were scratched off the permanent pay sheet as from December 31, they no longer fall into the new category.

"Unethical"
While acknowledging the right of the Chinese Customs to hire or dismiss their employees, the foreigners who now find themselves without jobs stress that the procedure adopted in their retirement is not only unethical, but contrary to regulations still governing employment in the Customs.

According to a circular issued in 1870 by Sir Robert Hart, no employee can be dismissed unless suffering from ill-health, without three months' notice. This circular has never been superseded by any order and, therefore, is considered to be still in force. Taking this into consideration, the compulsory retired foreigners consider their dismissal, not only without three months' notice but back dated, is contrary to Customs regulations.—Reuter.

Overworked Staff
The present number of dental experts is insufficient for Hong Kong's needs. For everyone in the Colony to have proper dental treatment 400 qualified dentists would be necessary allowing one dentist to every 5000 of the population.

The present Government dental scheme in Hong Kong is also totally inadequate in the opinion of various interested Government officials I questioned yesterday.

The Government dental staff is made up of one European dentist and five Chinese and has to provide dental service for all employees, wives, families and schoolchildren attending Government schools. As there are altogether about 20,000 children in attendance at these schools who qualify for the treatment the only attention they are getting at the moment is for the extraction of bad teeth.

On the supposition that one full-time dental officer might see 40 children a day it would take 500 days to achieve this, while the total number of working days in a year totals only 312. Of the six Government dental staff employees, one works full time, four are doing two hours a week and another does six mornings every week.

Paris, Feb. 9.
A new Spanish Republican Government-in-Exile has been formed by Senor Rodolfo Llopis, Secretary-General of the Socialist Workers' Party. Senor Llopis began his task of forming a new Republican Government last Thursday.—Reuter.

Billy Wright Always England First Choice

(By Archie Quick)

Water Speed Record Hopes

Kendal, Feb. 10.
Sir Malcolm Campbell, who is to attack his own world's water speed record of 141.74 mph on Coniston Water this summer is expected to raise the record by at least 20 mph in his jet-propelled stream-lined speedboat Bluebird II.

Sir Malcolm, who is 61, told a reporter: "Work on Bluebird is going on speedily and we are hoping that she will be completed some time during March."

"I shall probably transport her to Coniston some time during April, with a view to trying her out at moderate speed and to see that everything is all right."

"It will be a few weeks later when I will make the actual attempt."

Experts have predicted that, with the terrific power available from Bluebird's revolutionary engines, coupled with the new stream-lined hull, the "fastest man on water," given favourable conditions, will have no difficulty in going over the 160 mph figure.

London, Feb. 10.
When England's football selectors sit down to choose an International team the first name they decide upon is little Billy Wright, fair-headed wing half of Wolverhampton Wanderers, and the only soldier in the present national XI.

The calls on Wright's services are tremendous, the military, his club and country all wanting him, and yet he is only just past his twenty-first birthday.

I travelled back from an inter-Command match at Colchester with him and Wally Barnes, CSM at the Camberley Staff College and an Arsenal and Welsh international, and there was a shock of realisation for me when I said casually to Billy, "Did you play in the Portsmouth-Wolves Cup Final in 1939?" and he replied "I was not 14 then."

Wright plays at Aldershot for the School of P.T., H.Q. in Command matches for the Southern Command, captains the full Army sides, travels to and from Wolves matches every Saturday and still in his spare time playing for England.

Recently, for instance, he played at Colchester for Southern Command v. Eastern Command on a Thursday, played for Wolves at Colchester on the Saturday, was due at Sunderland for another match and back in Wolverhampton the next day, and then to Highbury the following Saturday.

Cricket Hopes
He has 14 more weeks in the Army and in that time, apart from Wolves matches, there are Army matches to be played against the R.A.F. at Liverpool and the French Army in Paris.

France has to be met at Highbury, he is sure to be chosen for Great Britain against the Rest of Europe at Glasgow, and finally there are fixtures at the season's end at Zurich and Lisbon, against Switzerland and Portugal.

"You'll be glad of your summer's rest and demobil leave," says I. "Oh no," says the indefatigable Billy, "I hope to be playing cricket all summer for Worcestershire. I am having a trial there in April, together with my clubmate Hancock."

The Command game at Colchester, although it was played on a snow-covered frozen-hard ground, revealed how rich the Army are for inside forwards.

Army Should Win
There are centre forwards Lowrie (Welsh international of Coventry), though it was played against the R.A.F. at Liverpool, and the French Army in Paris.

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Colony's Dentists Working Overtime

(By Margaret Bradbury)

More than ninety per cent of the population of Hong Kong is in need of dental treatment of some description, according to a well known practitioner who said yesterday that dentists are working overtime in an attempt to cope with a spate of patients far in excess of the qualified personnel in the Colony.

An inspection of the engagement registers in dental surgeries showed yesterday that appointments have been booked with dentists from early morning till late evening over the postwar period up till now.

In the main three reasons are responsible for the increased number of applicants for teeth attention—the fact that during the occupation no dentistry was done at all; the population was increased by at least a quarter of a million over prewar figures; the registered number of dentists in the Colony was higher, however, than now, many of them having returned to England or left for other parts of China.

I was told yesterday by a practicing dentist: "In the main, patients are suffering from advanced caries of the teeth and progressive loosening of the teeth, due to absorption of the bone as one of the main results of malnutrition."

Supplies Short
"I think a large number of the gingivitis and general disintegration cases is the aftermath of the food situation during the last few years. Its effect on teeth and gums does not show up at the time but we are getting the real results of it now."

Among difficulties facing Hong Kong dentists is the shortage of supplies. Dental equipment and materials of every description are unobtainable. For instance, the export of plaster of Paris from England is still prohibited. As this is the essential quantity for the making of dentures, it has totally upset their manufacture. All types of instruments are in very short supply and much of the equipment needed by dentists every day, will be unobtainable for months to come.

American dental material, if arriving here at all, is coming in in very small quantities. Reason for this shortage of supplies is because a great deal of essential goods are being used by the Services, and by demobilised dental officers re-

Warders Sentenced

Both defendants were fully cognisant of the ages of the girls and their action must have been deliberate. Mr. F. X. O'Mahony, at Central yesterday when he sentenced Antonio Ritchie and Jose Dominos Silva, both aged 18 and warders at Stanley Prison, to one year's imprisonment when they were found guilty of harbouring two young girls at No. 41 Main Street, Shaokwan, between Dec. 3 and Dec. 9. In addition Ritchie was given 12 strokes and Silva eight.

Mr. R. S. Smith, for the Crown, said that the two girls were under 21 years of age, and between Dec. 3 and Dec. 9 were living in a cockpit at No. 41 Main Street, Shaokwan. They were found there by a Chinese detective and Roza, of the Hong Kong Police, as the result of a report up with a report at Central Police Station that L. Kam-ying, the younger girl, had either absconded or was missing.

On information received the house was raided and the girls and two accused found. Evidence would be given that the rent of the place was paid by the two accused.

Lo Kam-ying, the younger girl, said that she lived with her parents at No. 122 Caine Road. At the end of November or early December she met first accused at a skating rink and became good friends. The other girl was a schoolmate and she knew the other defendant. On Dec. 3 she went to live at the place. There were no beds but all slept on the floor. The accused played the night three or four times during that period.

Legal Sense
2. The movement of coal should be given top priority even to the extent of suspending certain passenger rail services.

3. The latest reports could scarcely be called encouraging and the power cuts imposed today might have been confined more than a week.

Further Cuts?
4. That dog racing—a major industry of pastime—probably must be entirely prohibited although it was likely that evening performances in theatres and cinemas would continue.

5. That the cuts now darkening a belt of England from the Scottish border to the cliffs of Dover between 9 a.m. and noon and between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. daily under pain of prosecution might be extended further if Britain's worst weather in 50 years did not improve.

Although electricity was prohibited to industry for any but most essential uses, home owners were ordered to shut off their power only for these five hours and there was no restriction on the use of current for radios at the unusual hour—before the nine o'clock news instead of following it, when Mr. Attlee speaks tonight.

The first morning shut-off period caused some confusion at first but gradually a "brown-out" resembling wartime lighting developed in the mist shrouded business areas of snow-blanketed London.—United Press.

Texas Open

San Antonio, Texas, Feb. 10.
Rotund Ed (Porky) Oliver blithered the Bradenbridge Park's tough course for eight strokes under par on the final 36 holes to capture the \$10,000 Texas Open Golf Tourney with a total of 266—just one over the record set last year by Ben Hogan.

Oliver, hitting a comeback trial after five years in the army, edged Jimmy Demaret by one stroke.—Associated Press.

PONY CLASS CHANGES
The Hong Kong Jockey Club announces the following changes in classification:—
Midnight Express to "B" Class.
Cooper to "B" Class, and Arabian Moon to "B" Class.

SPEED SKATING
Oslo, Feb. 9.
Verne Lesche won the Women's World Speed Skating Championship here today. Else Marie Kristiansen of Norway was second and Maggi Kvestad of Norway was third.—Reuter.

POINTS WIN
Havana, Feb. 10.
Gerald Gonzalez, crack fighter known as the Gaviolin Kid, punched out a decisive ten-round decision over Jose Garcia Alvarez, welterweight champion of Spain.—Associated Press.

ICE HOCKEY
Zurich, Feb. 9.
Sweden beat Switzerland nine to six in an international ice hockey match played here today.—Reuter.

Gruner's Sister To Try

New York, Feb. 9.
Mrs. Helen Friedmann, sister of Dov Gruner, the Jewish terrorist now under sentence of death in Jerusalem Central Prison, was due to leave here tonight in a Trans-World Sky-master aircraft "Acropolis" for Palestine, where she hopes to persuade Gruner to appeal to the British Privy Council for his life.

Her plane is on the Bombay run and will stop at Gander, Newfoundland, Shannon, Paris, Rome, Athens, Cairo, and Lydda airport where she will disembark. The flight time from New York to Lydda is about 38½ hours plus a minimum of seven hours for intermediate stops.—Reuter.

Lahore, Feb. 9.
One hundred and twenty Moslems were arrested here today for organising a procession in defiance of the Punjab Safety Ordinance. The procession was headed by a member of the Lahore Municipal Corporation.—Reuter.

RADIO

ZBW Hong Kong broadcasting on a frequency of 845 kilocycles and from 12.30 to 1.15 p.m., 6.30 to 7.30 p.m., and 9 to 11 p.m. also on 9.52 megacycles.

12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.
12.45 p.m.—British Music Box.
12.55 p.m.—Henny Carter and His Orchestra.
1.00 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.
1.10 p.m.—Orchestral Interlude.
1.15 p.m.—Lizette, Evelyn, Ethel, and Egon Petri (Piano) with the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra.
1.30 p.m.—"From the Show"—Light Opera.
2.00 p.m.—Close Down.
2.30 p.m.—"Tales of Not-So-Long-Ago."
2.50 p.m.—London Relay: World News.
3.10 p.m.—London Relay: Home News from Britain.
3.15 p.m.—Michael Boddy (Piano) Recital.
3.30 p.m.—"The Paragon of the Paragon."
3.45 p.m.—Symphony Concert, by the London Philharmonic Orchestra.
4.15 p.m.—London Transmission Service: "They Lied To Tell The Tale" No. 3 "Reporters' Orchestral."
4.30 p.m.—With Ivo Novello.
5.00 p.m.—London Relay News.
5.10 p.m.—London Transmission Service: "Complicated by Robert Shaw."
5.30 p.m.—London Transmission Service: George Melachrino & His Orchestra.
6.00 p.m.—"Calcutta"—Dance, Music and Variety.
11.30 p.m.—Close Down.

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